

HELENSBURGH - STANWELL PARK

SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

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62ND ANNUAL REPORT

To be Presented at

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

to be held in the Clubhouse

at 10 a.m. on SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1969

OFFICIALS 1968 - 1969

Patrons: - R. Jackson M.L.A., C. Williamson

President: - A.E. Clarke

Senior Vice-President - R. Palmer

Vice-Presidents - G. Wardman, L. Morton, A. Prestage,  
K. Newell, G. Land, R. Whitefield,  
P. Anger

Captain - I. Kohlhardt

Vice-Captain - M. Nugent

Secretary/Treasurer - C.K. Asmussen

Asst. Secretary/Treasurer - J. Moloney

Boat Captain - R. Land

Vice Boat Captain - R. Hendry

Chief Instructor - M. Nugent

Assistant Instructors - B. Phillips, W. King

Branch Delegates - J. Moloney, T. Mott

Publicity Officer - G. Land

General Committee - K. King, R. Chapman, P. Glendenning,  
J. Ray, W. Wilson, C. Collins, H. Bendl

Hon. Medical Officers - Drs. Walsh, Rosen and Fisher

First Aid Officers - H. Garner and all Instructors

Social Committee - W. Prestage, R. Land, K. King,  
A. Prestage, C. Collins

"Seagull" Instructors - A. Fitzgerald, R. Butt, W. King,  
A. Mercer, R. Mercer, J. Ray, K. Hills

Hon. Caretaker - C. Redshaw

Gear Steward - R. Turner

Delegate to Juvenile  
Association - R. Butt

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HELENSBURGH STANWELL PARK SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT 1968-1969

Gentlemen,

As a new season looms before us it is hoped that shortcomings of the season under review will be remedied. It is not sufficient that most members pull their weight; it is necessary that each and everyone get their shoulder to the wheel.

Whilst it is always pleasing to report that "NO LIVES WERE LOST" this was not always possible as some members did not fully honour their patrol obligations and as our Club has been noted for its good patrols, it would be a shame should a mishap occur due to patrol laxity.

Unfortunately, at mid-season our District Supervisor, Ken Corbett, moved from the Illawarra Branch. However, we were very well served by his replacement, Danny Osborne, who is no stranger to Club members. Our thanks were conveyed to Ken on the occasion of his transfer and now we look forward to similar gainful association with Danny should he continue in the position. Every Club will admit that a vigilant Supervisor improves each Club in his district.

The expected elimination of the coal wash menace did not fully materialise and it remains necessary for continued pressure to be maintained whenever the surf is polluted.

Presentations were split into two functions - one for the "Seagulls" which was held in Helensburgh and voted an excellent affair and the other at the Helensburgh Workmen's Club for Juniors and Seniors. This also was a great evening and special appreciation goes to the Committee of that Club for their continued support. Regretfully, cadet members did not have a presentation function and this should never be allowed to happen again.

Each Club in New South Wales was requested to sell a quota of Art Union tickets to benefit the Association generally and after quite some effort our quota was disposed of. It is good to be able to say that we fulfilled this obligation and thanks is extended to those who assisted.

As usual our "Night" at Northern Suburbs Leagues Club was a great success both socially and financially. All who attended appreciate the great assistance being rendered by Norths to Clubs such as ours in their area.

Our Juveniles at last received the consideration due to them. It was great to see their Instructors taking such an interest in them. Their Club competitions were the keenest and best run of all Club events and their participation in carnivals spoke volumes for those in charge of them. It is hoped this interest is maintained.

For the first time in my memory we had a member selected in a State team. Bill Prestage was selected in the N.S.W. No. 1 team for the Taplin Relay in Tasmania which finished a very creditable third in the Australian Championships. Bill's effort was very good indeed as were his performances in both the individual ski races on the Championship program.

The annual contest with Coalcliffe Club was conducted late in the season and though our competitors were few we just managed to hold off a strong finish from our friendly neighbours.

The visit by Mona Vale Club was most welcome and proved a most enjoyable day. Functions such as these, where results count very little, do a lot to promote and improve friendships with other Clubs - welcome any time, Mona Vale!!

During the "off" season all members were pleased to learn that Ross Birrell gained selection in the N.S.W. and Australian Rugby Union teams - congratulations, Ross.

#### RESCUES, PATROLS AND FIRST AID

As stated above, an improvement in patrols is imperative and if necessary stricter discipline will have to be implemented. Fortunately, most patrol members discharge their obligations quite satisfactorily and absence or lateness of others must not be allowed to tarnish our excellent patrol record achieved over many years.

Records indicate that 30 patients were rescued, three of whom were rescued by the surf boat and 103 people received first aid in addition to those who were treated for stings.

#### MEMBERSHIP

Total membership improved by four but the active section was reduced by four. It is important that every effort be made to gain additional candidates for awards and thus improve our patrols. Parents of "Seagull" members again swelled the list of Associates and some of these members greatly assisted in the running of our Club. The following table shows membership for the past seven seasons:-

	<u>1962-3</u>	<u>1963-4</u>	<u>1964-5</u>	<u>1965-6</u>	<u>1966-7</u>	<u>1967-8</u>	<u>1968-9</u>
Active	55	42	45	38	43	48	44
Active Reserve	23	25	26	27	14	10	10
Cadet	10	7	7	12	5	8	14
Associate	18	17	19	30	42	68	69
Life	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>
	115	101	107	118	116	147	151

#### MEETINGS

The hoped for improvement of attendances at Committee Meetings did not eventuate. Members accepting positions on the Committee should appreciate

that their assistance and guidance is expected at the monthly meetings. Listed below is the attendance of each committeeman taken from the attendance book:-

- 6 .. A.E. Clarke, H. Williamson
- 5 .. K. Newell, I. Kohlhardt
- 4 .. W. King, M. Nugent, R. Hendry. C. Asmussen, G. Land,  
R. Hendry, J. Rae, W. Wilson, R. Land, P. Anger
- 3 .. R. Palmer, K. King, P. Glendenning, C. Collins, J. Moloney,  
J. Castle
- 2 .. N. O'Brien, J. Mawson, G. Wardman, A. Prestage
- 1 .. H. Bendl, R. Butt, R. Whitefield
- 0 .. L. Morton, T. Mott, R. Chapman

Representation by our Delegates at Branch Meetings also left a lot to be desired. It seems that the days are gone when our voice could always be counted upon at the monthly meetings of our Branch. Early next season there will be a "compulsory" meeting of Club Officials and Board Members with the Branch and it is hoped this will kindle more interest in Branch affairs.

EXAMINATIONS

Again there was a falling off of candidates who commenced training and again this can be attributed to irregularity of instruction sessions. Whilst the success eventually obtained was very welcome, it is a shame that so many seem to drift away each season after commencing training.

Next season, with the drill procedures greatly changed and with a new type of handbook, it behoves all Instructors to make themselves fully conversant with the new methods and to get as much instruction experience as possible as it seems reasonable to expect that all patrol members at least should be instructed on the alterations that have been made.

Since our Presentation Night the awards gained last season have come to hand and will be presented at the Annual General Meeting. Those successful were:-

- BRONZE MEDALLION .. Michael Whetham, Rod Burke, Gary Mercer and Paul McDonald.
- QUALIFYING CERTIFICATE .. John Egan, Robert White, Peter Mercer and Calvon Jardine.

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VALE -- Cec Redshaw and Geoff Russell

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All members mourn the passing of our esteemed Life Member, Cec Redshaw and popular ex member Geoff Russell.

To their relatives go the deepest sympathy. Similarly does our sympathy go to all other members who had bereavements in their families.

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## CARNIVALS AND COMPETITIONS

Participation in carnivals was principally in craft events and reasonable success was gained in the ski section. Actually, the only wins came in ski events and though no Championships were gained our lads were always a force to be reckoned with. In recording no victories in championship events it should not be forgotten that again the "Seagulls" showed Club members that it is possible to win both Branch and State titles as Craig Piccinelli was first in the Branch 9 year old Wade and Graham won the State 7 year old Wade. Special congratulations to these lifesavers of the future!

Again our own carnival was well run and well patronised both by spectators and competitors, including many Clubs from other Branches; it was at this carnival that our annual participation in the March Past took place - once a year is not often enough.

The "Seagulls" competed with distinction in Club, Branch and State Carnivals and in Club point score events each weekend. The interest shown by the Instructors of the Juveniles was most refreshing and no doubt was responsible for the very creditable performance of these youngsters. Our Club records its appreciation to Alan Fitzgerald, Arthur Mercer, Keith Mills, Bryan Hunt, Rog Mercer and others who so ably organised the "Seagulls". Now that at last these lads have received their just consideration it is hoped that this state of affairs can continue and, if possible, improve.

Club point scores and championships as usual were poorly supported (excepting, of course, for the Juveniles) and some improvement will be necessary if all events are to be continued.

Successful in the various competitions were:-

"Seagulls" 6, 7, 8 years Point Score	.. Graham Mercer
"Seagulls" 9, 10 years Point Score	.. John Crook
"Seagulls" 11, 12, 13 years Point Score	.. Jeff Hunt
Patrol Point Score	.. Ron Turner, Joe Duffey, Richard Whitefield, Will Prestage
Carnival Point Score	.. Will Prestage
Cadet Surf Championship	.. Bob White
Cadet Surf Point Score	.. Bob White
Cadet Beach Point Score	.. John Egan
Surf Ski Point Score	.. Bryan Phillips
Junior Surf Championship	.. John Collett
Junior Belt Championship	.. Will Prestage
Junior Surf Point Score	.. John Collett
Junior Beach Point Score	.. John Collett
Senior Surf Championship	.. Will Phillips
Senior Belt Championship	.. Ray Land
Senior Surf Point Score	.. Ian Kohlhardt
Senior Beach Point Score	.. Ray Land.

## FINANCE

It is pleasing to report that there was an improvement in our financial situation. This was brought about partly by reduced spending but mainly by increased income.

The weekly raffles showed a marked profit increase but it is disappointing to note that it is generally left to our Captain to organise and actually take part in these efforts. But thanks, many thanks, to those who did assist.

Also the effort of the "Seagulls" in running their own fund-raising by means of one well-patronised competition was greatly appreciated and it is hoped this effort can be repeated each season.

### Northern Suburbs Leagues Club Night

It is amazing how this Club can support so many institutions in its district and still succeed itself. The Stanwell Park benefit night was a great success both socially and financially and special thanks go to the Committee and members of Norths.

### Assurance Day

Each year I find it necessary to report that the day was financially successful despite the shortage of members who could be expected to assist. Those who took part did a magnificent job and it should not be left to a willing few to carry the whole effort. No doubt, had more taken part the result would have been even better.

### Annual Carnival

Despite the expense of running a successful carnival it was still possible to show a good profit. This was mainly due to the good entries, to the programme sellers and to those who toiled so hard in the stall.

### Donations

In addition to Assurance Day, donations were received from:-

J. & B. Photographers, N.H.O'Brien, P. Anger, R. Palmer, C. Redshaw, H. Williamson, P. Dunford, R. Jackson, M.L.A., J. Sutherland, C. Williamson, F. Wolrige, T. Cannon, R. Johnson, C. Parkes, B. Phillips, R. Knell, D.F. Russell, K. Redshaw, F. Daintry, W. Allen, St. Patrick's College, Helensburgh Cycle Club, Northern Suburbs Leagues Club, M. McDonald, J. Higgins, R. Marshall and A. Clarke.

## CLUBHOUSE AND GEAR

Regretfully it must be recorded that more effort will have to be given to both.

It was found necessary to request police to keep a check on the clubhouse because of illegal entry of persons unknown and the damage done to Club and private property. It is good to know that since the building has been under such surveillance no further damage has been noticed.

The Association has directed that certain modifications be made to life saving gear and the Illawarra Branch has resolved that any repairs not carried out within 6 weeks of Gear Inspection will result in rejection of Carnival Entries till such time as the offending gear is brought up to the condition required by them. This is a drastic course to have to be adopted so it behoves all members to ensure that our gear meets all requirements.

#### APPRECIATION

As usual it is pleasing to record that much assistance was received from supporters and some members but more assistance from the remainder of our members would make the work of elected officers a little lighter.

To those who assisted with Assurance Day and with our Annual Carnival goes special thanks. Both occasions meant a lot of work for the few who took part.

For assistance to our Bronze and Qualifying Squads goes our thanks to Ken Corbett and Danny Osborne who we also thank for their vigilance over the rostered patrols. Our Club has indeed been lucky to have had energetic District Supervisors.

Again Bill Hingston's Shell Service Station came to the party and supplied petrol for transport of the surf boat. Thanks Bill!

As in previous seasons the utmost assistance was given by our local kiosks and to them goes a special 'Thank You'.

Despite the failure to have repairs done to our two way radio aerial, it was pleasing to note that Aerial patrols were maintained and thanks is extended to the Aerial Patrol Service.

Wollongong Council improved the approaches to the Clubhouse and also improved the adjacent parking area, and endeavoured, after being requested to remove rocks etc. from the lagoon and all these jobs were appreciated.

The most harmonious relations were again maintained with the Illawarra Branch and our thanks are offered to those who do such a wonderful job both in administration and instruction and competition.

#### CONCLUSION

Again I must apologise for being absent so often, but I think most members will appreciate the other obligations which I have undertaken. The assistance given me by Ian Kohlhardt, Bryan Phillips, Ray Land and John Moloney made it possible for me to carry on with my position and to them I offer my personal thanks.

In this report I have tried to be constructive and in doing so it has often felt my lot to be critical - here's hoping this criticism will bear fruit.

C. K. ASMUSSEN,  
Honorary Secretary.



CAPTAIN'S REPORT

First let me thank all members who carried out their allocated duties, for without their support it would be hard to function.

It was pleasing to note the increase in sellers for the raffles. Whilst we did not sell every weekend I want to thank the members who assisted, but next year please don't wait to be asked as sellers are required at 12 noon each Sunday at the Clubhouse. It only takes one hour with about 4 sellers for a return of approximately \$30 and finance is always needed.

Patrols were maintained at a reasonable standard although some members could put more into them.

A most pleasing aspect was the assistance received from the parents of our "Seagulls". Next season more effort and interest must be shown to get the boys into the Surf Club ranks as they often wander off once they become old enough to join the Surf Club proper.

Congratulations to winners of Club and Carnival events and my personal congratulations to Bill Prestage who represented the State.

A fairly successful season was enjoyed by our Club but next season could and should be better.

IAN KOHLHARDT,  
Captain.

PRESIDENT'S ADDENDUM

Once again I wish to thank all those who did their best and made the Club a success. To some I say - a little more here and there wouldn't hurt, so pull together, fellows, and a harmonious Club will result.

A very successful afternoon was held in the Helensburgh Workmen's Club where the old time members of our Club got together for a few drinks and a talk. About 100 were in attendance and a date has been set in October for another show this year. Thanks to Daki and Jim Thorne for their organisation.

There is little else to add other than to thank you all for your effort and to express my thanks for the honour of Life Membership bestowed on me.

ALBERT CLARKE,  
President.